

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 and 28-30 are pending in this application. Claims 23-27 and 31 have been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. By this Amendment, claims 1-4, 10, 12-14, 22-24, 27- 28 and 30-31 are amended. No new matter is added. Support for the changes to the claims may be found, for example, on page 11, line 16 - page 12, line 1; page 16, lines 15-20; page 19, line 2 - page 25, line 8.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Woo at the telephonic interview held July 19, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

Claims 1-22 and 28-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that independent claims 1-3, 12-13, 28 and 30 allegedly do not provide any tangible and real world application, because these claims "end with deleting the information after having checked the condition." (*See* Office Action, page 4.) Applicant respectfully submits that this assessment overlooks, at least, the previous amendment and that the preamble of these claims is directed to the tangible and real world application of classifying and storing documents.

However, in the interest of furthering prosecution of this application, Applicant has added the following feature to the body of the claim which is tangible and real world application: " wherein one or more documents are classified by the extracted feature, the extracted feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing

means/storage medium." Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 and 28-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Mahoney et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,659,639. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted above, each of the independent claims 1-3, 12-13, 28 and 30 recite the feature: "wherein one or more documents are classified by the extracted feature, the extracted feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means/storage medium." Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is not taught or suggested by Mahoney.

Mahoney is directed to machines and methods for analyzing human-drawn marks indicating graphical editing operations on individual documents and then modifying the individual document using a computer based on the specified editing operation. Mahoney does not teach any type of electronic information management system or processes in which multiple documents are classified according to features extracted or accepted from the documents and stored based on client instructions and subsequently deleted from the information management system if the document contains unnecessary electronic information. At best, Mahoney only teaches a machine or method which is capable of deleting select images from an individual document.

Because Mahoney does not teach or suggest all claimed features of independent claims 1-3, 12-13, 28 and 30, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 23-27 and 31 are currently withdrawn method claims. However, upon allowance of claims 1-3, 12-13, 28 and 30, rejoinder of claims 23-27 and 31 is respectfully requested. (See MPEP §821.04.)

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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